

First Evening Edition.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 3 O'CLOCK.

THE MIGRATION OF BUSINESS.

In the earliest days of the City of New-York, the favorite building localities were those immediately adjacent to the Fort, which was on the blocks now included by the Bowling-Green, Whitehall, Bridge and State-sts. This vicinity was occupied by dwelling-houses, and by traders, as the mercantile community were then called. The north side of Pearl-st., between Broad and Whitehall-sts., was occupied, at an early period, by several of the principal traders, and was for many years the main business street. Broad-st. was originally known as "The Ditch," but in 1658 it was dug out, making a large drain; and for twelve or thirteen years it so remained, when it was filled up, and no trace left of it upon the surface of the street. Thus the business localities remained until after the Revolution, when, accessions being daily made to the population of the City, additional accommodations for tradesmen were required.

At a still later period the vicinity of Old-slip became the mart of the mercantile community, and it was here that the importers and jobbers of those days transacted their business. William-st., from Maiden-lane to Fulton-st., was occupied by fancy and retail stores. Broadway, Maiden-lane, John, Beekman and other streets were at this time filled with dwelling-houses. With the increase of the mercantile community the jobbing business began to creep toward Wall-st., the old-fashioned Dutch houses being demolished to give place to more convenient and roomy structures for the accommodation of merchants. In 1801-2-3, and even before that time, stores and dwellings were built in Water-st., Front-st., Coffee-House-st., and along the East River, but little business being transacted on the North River at that time. During the lapse of 25 or 30 years, the commercial interests having meantime greatly increased, more extensive accommodations were needed by the merchants, and innovations were made upon streets that had hitherto been occupied exclusively by dwellings, although it was deemed madness to build beyond a certain pale.

The increase of rents, however, from year to year, drove many merchants beyond the established pale, and from innovations were made upon Liberty, Cedar, Maiden-lane, John and other streets, and the dwelling-houses therein converted into stores, thus carrying the wholesale mercantile business further up town. In these days it was considered a great desideratum by the merchants to be located in the vicinity of the hotels. The Pearl-st. House, City Hotel, and other places, now known only in name, were then in their prime days, and constantly filled with travelers, mostly merchants from the country. With the increase of the City, new hotels and houses of accommodation for travelers increased, and the immediate neighborhood of each public house was deemed a desirable place of business by the City merchant. The erection of the Howard Hotel, Franklin Hotel, and other houses of that class, drew business around them, and as each successive house was erected further up town, so business moved up. The Merchants' Hotel and others in Cortlandt-st. becoming favorite places for country merchants, drew business around them, and now that street is almost entirely filled with wholesale stores.

There being, for many years, no hotels of note above the Howard, business was confined to the south-west portion of the City, and merchants, not deeming it desirable to go beyond the public-houses, made themselves room by converting dwellings into stores and driving the occupants further up town.

With the steady march of improvement another great step has been taken by the mercantile community, and extensive innovations have been made in the Third Ward, where the streets, which but as yesterday were filled with dwellings, are now fenced in by lofty and magnificent warehouses. This step cannot be attributed entirely to the removal of the hotels up town, but the increased facilities by steamboats, canals and railroads on this side of the City, among other inducements, have had much to do with the move. That portion of Broadway lying in the Third Ward is now filled almost entirely by wholesale merchants. The move has not been confined entirely to the Third Ward, for on the block in Chambers-st., between Broadway and Center-st., the site of the Manhattan Water-Works, we now behold a row of magnificent structures. Some builders have even gone further, following the hotels, for we see lofty buildings designed for wholesale stores opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel and Collamore House; yet those will not probably be occupied by other than retail merchants for some years to come. A hall will be made in the Third Ward, and probably no very extensive innovations will be made beyond that district for sometime yet by the jobbers and importers.

During the past three years the appearance of the Third Ward, within the bounds of Broadway, Liberty, Greenwich, and Duane-sts., has materially changed; not only whole blocks of rickety and dilapidated buildings, some of which were nearly a century old, but most valuable and substantial dwellings, having been demolished, and on their sites erected magnificent, roomy, and costly structures, with every recent improvement, designed for mercantile purposes. The majority of the buildings within the limits above mentioned are finished with marble and brown-stone fronts, and have more the appearance of palaces than places of business. Below Greenwich-st. no material change has taken place—the business transacted in that locality being confined almost entirely to produce dealers. In that vicinity, however, several large brick buildings have, within a year or two, been erected, and are now occupied by commission merchants who formerly did business down town.

The first move of the mercantile community to this section was made about five or six years ago, to Liberty, Dey and Courtlandt-sts. The subsequent widening of Liberty-st. offered eligible sites for stores to the merchants, which were seized upon with avidity. Almost as soon as the street had been laid out the erection of fine buildings therein was commenced, and the work hurried on to completion, and many of them were filled with goods before the street was finished.

The example of the first mover was quickly followed, and many other merchants doing business in the lower part of the City, in obscure streets, and paying heavy rents, seeing the advantage gained by their brother merchants, began to look about. Lots in Murray, Warren, Chanter and other streets, were purchased at somewhat moderate amounts, and as if by magic the rookeries therein were replaced with stately structures. Scarcely had ground been broken here, ere the mercantile community seemed to have woken, a long sleep, and every effort was made to purchase property within the limits before mentioned. By this time the owners of lots in the Third Ward began to see their interests, and in the short space of three or four months property had almost doubled in value. A woman who held two or three years' lease of a small house and lot in Murray or Warren-st., would sell the good-will of said lease for less than \$500. The fever took a strong hold on all dimensions. But prices were paid for lots of land in every direction, and operations were commenced Third Ward in the year three years ago, has been in a four blocks being, until very recently, for three or four blocks to be built, and the rest of the city was in a similar condition. Most of these buildings were completed. Most of these buildings were completed. Most of these buildings were completed.

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filled with dwelling-houses; but these have nearly all disappeared, and their sites are now occupied by stately structures, designed for mercantile purposes. That portion of Church-st. lying in this Ward, which only yesterday, as it were, was a vast sink of infamy and degradation, and the simple name of which caused virtuous people to shudder, has undergone a vast change. No more the sounds of blasphemy and drunken revelry are heard from low dens of prostitution here, as in times of yore, but costly and magnificent structures, occupied by some of our wealthiest merchants, now grace the street. In this thoroughfare, between Duane and Barclay-sts., there remain at the present time about twenty old houses, and many of these are in a dilapidated condition. Even in Reade and Duane-sts., near Church, several large stores have been erected, and are now occupied by merchants. The following tabular statement will afford some idea of the extent of the change that has taken place in this Ward within the limits heretofore mentioned:

| Total No. new buildings. | Marble. | Brown. | Brick. |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Liberty-st. 31 | 17 | 12 | 2 |
| Courtlandt-st. 23 | 13 | 10 | 0 |
| Dey-st. 45 | 0 | 37 | 8 |
| Fulton-st. 12 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| Verdy-st. 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| Barclay-st. 19 | 6 | 9 | 4 |
| Park-pl. 11 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| Murray-st. 31 | — | — | — |
| Warren-st. 49 | 19 | 25 | 5 |
| Chambers-st. 25 | 10 | 15 | 0 |
| Reade-st. 5 | — | — | — |
| Duane-st. 4 | — | — | — |
| Broadway 26 | 2 | 26 | — |
| Total 282 | 72 | 100 | 59 |

The opening of Park-place through the College grounds will be another great improvement in the Third Ward. The work of opening was commenced about a month ago, and it will be, probably, completed in the fall, by which time we may see these classic grounds adorned or decorated with stores.

From the great facilities this Ward offers to merchants, in the way of steamboats, canals, railroads and hotels, it is destined soon to become the center of the City business.

The great increase of business in this section has drawn heavily upon the First Ward, and there has been this season an unusual number of stores to let, but at prices which would not have been looked for a short time ago. Many stores in William and other streets, some distance from the river, were in the market a few weeks ago at rents considerably below the figure demanded a year since. Several of these stores are at present untenanted.

The west side of the First Ward has been seriously injured for business by the irruption of foreigners, and the establishment of emigrant boarding-houses. In time, however, these staples for human beings must be removed, and the lower part of the First Ward, on the west side, built up with stores for the occupancy of the mercantile community.

It is more than probable that this portion of the First Ward will remain in its present condition for many years, as the motto of the State, "Excelsior," seems a favorite one with the merchants, and they will be more likely to go still higher up town than to make a retrograde movement. Still the proximity of deep water and commodious piers and wharves renders the lower part too valuable to be given up to such hovels as now cover whole blocks along Washington and Greenwich-sts.

CLEAN STREETS.

Science measures all things—the weight of the atmosphere, the speed of lightning, the depth of the ocean, and has even condescended lately to gauge the powers of mud. No easy task, our readers will agree with us, in a city like that of Manchester, (England), where the dense cloud smoke from a thousand manufactories is constantly borne to the ground by a humid atmosphere, to mix there with the clayey soil forced up from beneath the pavements by the constant travel of heavy carts. Yet even there this plague of modern cities has, by the aid of science, been robbed of its terrors to daily clean stockings and long, flowing flounces, and we do not see why it should not be so here under the far more favorable influence of sky and climate we enjoy. True, a movement—a heeded movement—has just been made in the city—the people have been in a right direction; but by many honest people the scope and capabilities of the street sweeping machines are little understood, and by many intelligent voters are very naturally disliked.

We therefore propose to lay before our readers a sketch of the operations of these machines, as described by the inventor and patentee, Mr. Joseph Whitworth, (one of the Commissioners from Great Britain to our late Crystal Palace), before the Commissioners appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the health of towns, and whose interesting report is now before us. The mode of operating with the machine will, we trust, before long become familiar to our citizens, and for the present we may describe the apparatus "as a series of brooms suspended from a light frame of wrought iron, hung behind a common cart, the body of which is placed near the ground for greater facility in loading. As the cart wheels revolve, the brooms successively sweep the surface of the ground, and carry the soil up an inclined or carrier plate, at the top of which it falls into the body of the cart." Thus it will be seen that the process in cleaning, as now practiced, viz., sweeping, loading, and carrying—the two former absorbing a large amount of human labor—are performed simultaneously; and not only this, but—whereas by the present mode the dirt is first swept from the center to the sides of the street, and then collected into heaps, each particle moving through 30 feet of space before the operation of loading commences—by the machine the dirt is swept and carried, by one and the same movement, from the spot in which it lies. "The operation of sweeping, in fact, merges in that of loading, and both are performed without the intervention of human labor. While going at the rate of only two miles per hour, with brooms three feet wide, the patent machine will clean nearly 60 superficial square yards per minute. This is about the average rate of work done by 36 men—that is, Manchester men. We imagine our imported revolvers would soon take such a man's advantage of the mud—the crater. Thus, in a quarter of an hour, the machine performs nearly the day's work of one man! Many other collateral advantages are found; thus, the machine moving constantly and uninterrupted, the time and force now wasted by continual stoppages are saved. The number of carts and horses required for a given effect is found by practice to be reduced. The probability of injuring the number of sweepers to the number and return of the carts, that the loading may immediately follow the sweeping, is greatly neglected, however, in Gotham, is entirely obviated, as each acts independently, having in connection with itself all the necessary accessories. Thus the condition of humanity in the form of our scavenger friend, Pat, is at once elevated; he is sweeper, loader, and carrier, all in one, and he may comfortably carry an umbrella, while his cart tail performs his work for him. Besides, the omnibuses must get out of his way then.

Still further. Every thrifty housewife knows that her house once thoroughly cleaned, it is easily kept clean, and this axiom is no less true as regards clean streets, and the following table, from Mr. Whitworth's Report shows, beyond all cavil, that the streets, being once cleaned, very little labor is required to keep them so:

| District. | No. of Sweeps. | No. of Loads. | Yds. No. of Sweeps. | Yds. No. of Loads. |
|--|----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Township 1338 | 1338 | 1338 | 1338 | 1338 |
| Township 1341 | 1341 | 1341 | 1341 | 1341 |
| The portion swept by machines the latter | 5,274 | 600 | 1,235 | 4,358 |

We have very little doubt that a year's sweeping by the machines in New-York would show still more striking results than the above, as it is distinctly stated that "the kind of surface does not make any difference. It has been worked regularly on every kind of street surface—the round and square set

"stones, the macadamised road" and wooden pavement.

Finally, as to the expense, let our Common Council note this, if they wish to economize, and to have the blessings of citizens for clean streets, during their dynasty. "I and my partner (Leiguitur Whitworth) have agreed to sweep the streets twice oftener than under the old system, at an annual saving to the town of £500 (\$2,500) per annum; or, in other words, we are to receive for twice the amount of "cleaning \$2,500 less than the former expenditure." Considering the difference in size of the two cities, the higher rates of wages here, and our present expensive mode, this figure for New-York would, probably, be near \$50,000. The answer to the Commissioners' question, "What is the relative expense of the two modes of cleaning?" is this: "In Manchester, the average expense of sweeping and carting away the refuse of 1,000 square yards is 4/6 (or \$1.08). The cost of sweeping by machine varies according to the distance of the place of deposit. In Regent-st., London, where we sweep early in the morning, and deposit the refuse in the street for removal by the contractor, we have charged 14d. (25 cents) per 1,000 square yards. Generally, the cost of sweeping and removing the refuse to places of deposit by the machine will be from one-half to one-third the price of scavenging on the old system."

The report is full of many interesting details, as regards paving of streets, friction of carriages, drafts on different kinds of pavements, the foothold of horses thereon, the application of refuse to agriculture, by irrigation, etc., which we have not space to enlarge upon; but we have stated enough to show that the dening of our streets, as at present carried on, is a worn-out, old-fogy system, which we all know, to our cost, to be inefficient, and that a better plan is now before us, the execution of which nothing but corruption, favoritism, or political bias can prevent.

At this rate, the cleaning of the three miles of Broadway, early in the morning, estimating it at 8,000 square yards, would be \$20.00.

PARKS AND CHAPELS FOR THE POOR.

This question of amusements has become one of vast importance to our cities. Yet it is difficult to persuade our better classes of it. Those who have always lived in the country or in the small towns—where the whole population enjoy just about the same advantages for health or pleasure; where the poor man's home is under trees or in the open fields; where his work is mostly in the free air, and his amusement on an occasional evening, at a Lyceum or a game of ball, the same with the richer classes—cannot easily appreciate the condition of the poor classes in our cities. It seems to them naturally that the city day-laborer, the poor foreign mechanic, the serving woman or shop woman, should, on the Sunday, go decorously to church, and hear all the services attentively as the same people do in the villages. If, on the contrary, they do not; if they are found at all places of pleasure, and if they are seen in crowds, roaming out of the City, it is ascribed partly to stupidity and mostly to depravity. The stranger, religiously educated, at once sets down the masses of the City working-people, as beyond religious influence. They seem given over to Aholism and pleasure.

This is so much the feeling now, that very few men of any stuff in them can be brought to labor among the lower classes of the city for their elevation and Christianizing. It appears too hopeless a work.

Even many of us accustomed to the City and its peculiar ways, are used to look on these habits of the working classes much in the same way.

We sit in our warm, cheerful breakfast-room, under the pleasant influence of picture and curtain and soft coloring; we read the thoughts of other countries and ages in books or magazines; our nature has been satisfied the past week with a concert here, a friendly party there, or an excursion to the country; sweet friends are about us, and as we look out, a bright Sunday morning, and see the crowds of working people hurrying to the boats and railways for a country trip, without regard to church or religious services, we feel sadly and despairingly; we are ready to say that Christianity has lost its hold of the lower classes.

But are we looking at this rightly? I know these workmen and working-women, and taking their condition and their education in view, I cannot wonder at these habits.

Go with me to one laboring man's home, out of the thousands in the City, in a street of the Fourth Ward. He is a head-carrier. He lives in an irregular basement, with two other families in the same room. His home is lighted by a small dirty window, which looks out under a open rot stand on a slopy street. He has five children, and each of his lodgers two. His wife is quarrelsome and slatternly—the children are dirty, and much given to fighting. There are only two chairs to sit upon, and a bug infested bed. The place smells of a compound of damp clothes, blue-water and cologne. The man at home was bred up near the giant coast cliffs of old Ireland. He used to look at them every day in his work, and every Sunday in going to the parish church. He has the human soul inside of him, and the unpossessable wants of that soul for pleasure and amusement. He works every week day from 7 o'clock till 7. He comes home tired, stupid and hungry. He has no time or means to go to a social party. The whole life is work, dull, constant drudgery. His eyes yearn for the glorious hills, for sun-light, for free air and forest trees, and green fields. His heart hungers for something he does not know what—something which shall satisfy this craving for amusement, or pleasure; something out of and away from this life-long drudgery. He is not directly conscious of these longings, but they continually stir him.

Then at length, when the wished-for Day of Rest comes, shall you tell him to remain quietly at home at his devotions? Shall you tell him to enter the House of Worship twice or thrice for the day, and then, in company with his family, return again to devotional reading? He cannot! Who of us could? He hates the close, hot city; he hates his wretched home; he has no books or place to read; he has no seat in a church; he finds no Brotherhood there. The pews are selling for one year for more than his whole year's earnings. He is put away in a paper's seat, if he goes. He pants for free air; for the sight of waves, or rocks, or woods; and at length he bursts out into the open country, or, if he cannot go, he forgets all his hard limitations, his squalid home and unsatisfied life, in the free carouse and jovial oblivion at the grog-shop.

This is only one instance of thousands which I could bring up in my own personal experience. There are many even stronger—men who sew or who cobble in close, unhealthy basements; men in dark back shops; women who sit or who work from dawn till 11 o'clock every day, the week long, month after month—They breathe bad air; they have no amusement; they have no books; they are mere machines of society, wound up to work fifteen hours a day. And yet in each worn, overworked body, is the same heart as in you and in me. Music is as sweet to their ears—the rattle of summer leaves, the plash of fountains, the glimmer of sunlight as pleasant to them as to us; social words and smiles, fun and play and sport as happy, and as needed. Shall they, too, pass the Day of Worship in their narrow rooms, and go through church service, as we do of another class do? What shall be done in this matter of Sunday employment for them?

I need hardly, in attempting an answer, premise by putting Religion in its proper place. Without many words, it is assumed that to this all things must yield; that only this is in the heart of man, is he of any permanent value to himself or the world.

It is also most true that the great majority of the low working classes are quite beyond our present religious influences. More than this: they are greatly addicted to coarse dissipation. The worst vices, de-

bauchery, dicing, fighting, and rowdiness are their prominent characteristics. What shall be done to cast these out, if possible, and to gain a genuine moral influence over them?

We believe that two principles should be attentively considered by men who wish to elevate these people, and then that they should be applied as circumstances direct. One is that the taste for a higher pleasure is the best means for eradicating the taste for a lower; and the other that religious influences should be adapted to the new circumstances of this class.

We believe that if these workmen had a pleasant park in which to walk with their clean families on the Sunday, they would not be so apt to frequent the rowdy grog-shops. A garden, the opportunity of seeing beautiful objects or hearing beautiful sounds, placed within easy reach of the laborer, would destroy much of the tendency to coarse pleasures.

This has proved singularly true with a much more animal population than our own—the English. The Sydneyham Palace, when it was erected, was begirt with a circle of gin-taverns, which expected a rich harvest from the workmen. It was found, however, very soon, that these forms of classic beauty—these wonderful revivals of other ages—the animals, the flowers, and the noble music—were more attractive, even to the dull English peasant, than the gin; and, before the season was out, many of the taverns were broken, and all had a losing business.

The Duke of Devonshire had a similar experience with his gardens at Chatsworth, which is detailed, at length, in a Report upon Liquor-Taverns by a Committee of the House of Commons, last summer. The facts are, in effect, that formerly the Duke held his gardens open on the Sunday, and the manufacturing people, from the neighboring towns, came in, with their families, and spent a portion of the day quietly, often attending the village church. Within a year he was induced by some of his stricter friends to close them on the Sunday. The result was that the people came over as usual, hung about the palings, and then went to the taverns and drank, until the offenses committed in the village increased to an alarming degree—the arrests being something like 100 per cent. more than under the old arrangement; so that finally as a measure of police the duke was led to open his grounds again on the Sunday, which he has since continued to do.

One of the elevating influences most needed in our City, is a Park for the working classes; grounds where statuary, and flowers, and objects of beauty, should call away some, at least, of the crowd from ram-shops, and gambling-hells, and prize-fights.

Then our plan would be, that on these beautiful public grounds, or near them, "Chapels for workmen" should be erected, with seats equal and free to all, with living preachers, speaking out of a heart of brotherhood to men whose wants and troubles they knew in each day's experience. Here it would be natural and healthful for the laborer to worship; out of the rainy, dusty, nauseating streets, amid sweet smells and pleasant sounds, with grass, and trees, and water around, and the fresh air of the pure country breathing on him, as he left the church.

Such an hour of worship, and quiet, open air exercise with his family, would purify him for the whole week. And only in some such mode, will we ever bring our mass of laborers under a direct Christian influence. New means are needed for new wants. Who is ready to apply them?

Mr. Wilson, in the famous case of *Vanbelle*, London, has shown these principles with much success. He found that his boys, who had been working all the week, would come about on the Sunday through the streets, and that they did not know very many but had a great deal of knowledge, and even into critical principles. His secondary school was open to all, and he found that the children, with their books and papers, and even furnished to those who lived at a distance. The results were most complete. The boys now preferred the books to the Sunday school and from driving, and after all, the same into regular habits of attending the chapel meeting, many of the workmen.

SHADOWS OF OUR SOCIAL SYSTEM.

If a man runs away from the light, he always catches his own shadow; and even when he approaches the light, the shadow pursues him. I have seen little boys attempt to dodge these black ghosts of themselves, but they always fail. Run where they would, the shadow ran too. Then one of them got mad, and stamped on the ground, but the shadow stamped also, foot to foot, in mimic wrath. "He shall brake thy head!" sprang instinctively to my lips: for the shadow seemed to embody all evil, as a type.

Then the sun rose steadily in the heavens, and, at mid-day, I saw the boy stamping upon the head of his own gray, small shadow, as it lay, huddled before him, on the ground. "Ah, yes, thou shalt bruise 'his head!'" I exclaimed, triumphantly. A dozen fairy feet began to dance over a troop of shadow-heads, simultaneously, as if they had all caught, sympathetically, the spirit of my thoughts.

There is indeed, a deep significance in this, as a symbol of higher things. An opaqueness attaches to all finite powers, and throws a shade of imperfection over their best works. Whether this thought is expressed sentimentally, as a dogma of the schools, or most keenly, as a biting jest against Humanity, it is a recognition of the same dark truth. Polished, enlightened, civilized, Christianized society has its vice-infested cottages, and its marble palaces, its temples of justice, and its halls of learning; on its costly churches built up as grand houses for God's people to fall asleep in, and on its church spires with their long fingers pointing far up toward heaven, on the cheek of the little maiden, and on the brow of the grave judge. What is there, or who is there wholly absorbed by the ideal—becoming a thing of light, with no shadow falling about it?

We are all cases, and the deeds we do are the effects; but they are always a good deal stained with earthlyness. There is a tinge in them which is so sharp and so fatal, that I sometimes wonder, after all, whether mankind are not like the ancient hero whose mother held him by the heel when she bathed him in the immortal waters; and whether evil is not really bruising poor Humanity in its only vulnerable and mortal part.

And yet it must be that mankind are progressing. They are going toward the light; and, one day, they must come into such a relation to it, that they will be able at least to crush the head of all present, palpable evil into the dust. A score of cases is sometimes bound up in one little bundle—a bundle of odious, irrevocable laws, individual and social, which we might easily forget, if there were no rewards and penalties attached.

The above train of thoughts was suggested by the following events:

SLOW STARVATION—INSANITY—DEATH.

An Orthodox clergyman, who is at times subject to a hereditary depression of spirits, a year or two since became very deaf. This so increased his despondency, that he left the ministry, and removed to New York, and began work as a Daguerreotypist. This infirmity made him unsuccessful in his business; and his wife, who had previously obtained a situation as teacher in an industrial school, with a salary of \$100 a year, resigned this school into the charge of her oldest daughter, while she herself stayed in the Daguerrean room all day, and then sat up till midnight, sewing. But, for all this, she found it extremely difficult to support a family of seven children, during the hard times of last winter. An energetic and well-educated woman, she could not bear to acknowledge their poverty, and accept of charity; so, mother-like, she toiled, and endured a slow starvation.

In the Spanish Inquisition there was a mode of torture, called the "Water-Drop." The victim was placed in an immovable position. A single drop of water fell upon his head from far above, then another, and another; slowly, steadily, drop, drop, drop. At first the sensation was rather agreeable;

then it grew painful—that steady dropping in one spot, till it seemed to fall upon the very quick of the brain—producing the intensest agony, the most excruciating death.

So it was that suffering came down on that woman's head. It was little at first, and she bore it bravely, but it fell steadily, till it became agonizing, and her brain was literally crushed with the torture. Yet the family could not realize this.

Then the daughter, sickened beneath her burden of cares. She left the school, and came home to be a fresh sorrow for her poor mother. She was a pretty, gentle girl of seventeen—wasting away with a pulmonary disease, superinduced by hard labor and privation. Of course the father grew more and more melancholy.

One day a man called at the house, stating that he was a physician, and a member of the Board of Health, sent to make inquiries about the young girl's condition. After torturing the invalid with impertinent questions, he insisted upon making an indecent examination, which so wrought upon her already shattered nerves, that he left her in a confirmed delirium and delirium. This was the last drop falling on the brain of the poor mother; and her insanity assumed so wild a type as to arrest the attention of all. Mother and daughter were both taken to the Lunatic Asylum on Blackwell's Island. I saw them a few days later. The girl complained of no pain, though unable to rise from the bed; but constantly bemoaned her own wickedness, and the eternal punishment to which she was doomed.

"You are not a bad girl," said a lady who had befriended them in their need.

"Oh! I am bad," she responded, looking up, most imploringly; "I never did anything good in my life."

"Why, yes," said the lady, soothingly, "you have done a great many things. Don't you know how well you taught, in our Industrial School—and how much the children all liked you? That was good."

"Yes, and what did I do for?" she replied, in an earnest despair. "It wasn't to do good; I was thinking all the while of the money—just the money."

"Well, that was good. They needed the money at home; you gave it to them when you might have kept it yourself. Was not that good?"

"No, if wasn't. I didn't care anything about them. I just did it because I wanted to; and I wasn't sick, but I went home, and sat there all day, and made mother wait upon me when she had so much to do—and I didn't care. I am not sick now, and haven't a bit of pain; but I just lie here because I will."

"But you are sick, very sick, if you are not in pain; and then no one can look in your face, and feel that you are a bad girl."

"Yes, I know," she replied, quickly; "it's just like an apple—very beautiful outside, but rotten all through. Sometimes I wish I was insane; for then it wouldn't be true that I am so wicked, and that I shall have to suffer so much."

"But I think, my child, you are insane on this point; not on any other."

"Oh! no! 'tis clear," moaned the poor girl; "you think so, but no one but God can read the heart."

At the suggestion that God could forgive, she answered, "No, he can't forgive me. I committed sin enough before I was three years old to make it impossible for me ever to be forgiven."

"Why, what did you do?"

"I used to stare in the food when mother told me not, and I knew better all the time; but I didn't care. And it's just so now. I don't want to be any better, and that's just the trouble about it."

It was useless to talk with her. She seemed rational about everything else; but on this point she was fixed. From her babyhood she had been taught that a child of three years might commit sin enough to merit eternal punishment; and, in her present state, her own guilt magnified till it seemed too great to be forgiven. It was a terrible despair—one that made the soul heavy to witness it; and we joined in the feeling of thankfulness that it was only insanity.

The mother was far more wild and flighty; but there was method even in her madness. She felt that she was doing some great work for others, by moving about rickety, and continually unpinning the sleeves of her dress, and that it was her solemn duty to finish this work, but that good was coming from it, and she would finally be happy.

"Why," said she, "it's going to benefit our sex!"

"Oh! certainly," we said.

"I thought so," she replied, with eager delight; "else I don't think I could have gone any further; but I thought we should be benefited—women would be."

Had this thought found its way to her heart when she was toiling to earn a scanty subsistence for her dependent family, making shirts for a shilling, or teaching for a paltry hundred dollars a year, in a "benevolent" school? and had it lingered through all her madnes—mingling with the ruling motive of her life—that rigid, orthodox sense of duty—when every thing else had gone, when she had forgotten her friends, and was not sure even of her own identity—doubting whether she was among the living or the dead? It was strange and passing odd. A few days after, when I saw them again, the mother was more at rest; but the hectic was burning brightly on the daughter's cheek. She could not eat, and, at my kindly good-bye at parting, she repeated a phrase she had used before: "Oh! it is a good bye to you, but it ain't to me. There is nothing good to me."

The father and younger children have now separated, and gone to different friends in the country; the mother may yet recover; but her child must sleep on, and awaken to learn that God can forgive.

And this is the fruit of 1 and starvation—wasting toil, that could not but lead enough for all those loved ones from its pitiable ways. Nature was inexorable. She never forgives. When her laws are broken, her children always suffer.

ANTOINETTE L. BROWN.

It is cheering to be able to state that this School has since raised the wages of one of its other Teachers, upon the strength of the above facts.

Sales at the Stock Exchange, MAY 3.

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|--------------------|--------|------------------------|----|
| 5,000 Virginia 60s | 37 1/2 | 100 Hampshire Coal Co. | 15 |
| 4,000 do | 37 1/2 | 100 Hill Hill | 15 |
| 6,000 do | 37 1/2 | 100 do | 15 |